

10/29/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Nicholls

Application No.: 09/644,937

Filed: August 23, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
EVALUATING MOLECULAR  
SIMILARITY

Group Art Unit: 2857

Examiner: Assouad, P.

Attorney Docket No.: 9476-003-999

5/Pre  
Amor  
a  
R. J. ...

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please amend the specification and pending claim and insert new claims as indicated. This amendment is accompanied by (a) Appendix A showing amended paragraphs of the specification; (b) Appendix B showing amended Claim 1; (c) Appendix C showing all currently pending claims after entry of this amendment; (d) an Information Disclosure Statement; (e) PTO form 1449 and copies of cited references AA-BY; and (f) fee transmittal sheet.

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01 FC:2202 261.00 DA  
02 FC:2203 140.00 DA

01 FC:202 546.00 CH  
02 FC:203 1071.00 CH

AMENDMENT

In The Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 5 with:

An additional aspect considered by Mestres et al. is the issue of molecules existing in multiple structural conformations, i.e. energetically there may be more than one possible structure for a given molecule. Mestres et al. calculate the similarity indexes of all pairs of conformations